Washington State Energy Strategy Update/ 2003 Biennial Energy Report

Proposed Revised Guiding Principles (8/27/02)

I. New Resources In meeting future energy needs, Washington should:

1. Pursue cost~~-effective~~ *competitive* energy policies that minimize environmental damage including the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions *and restoration of salmon*. This means that load serving entities should
    a. first acquire all cost-effective conservation,
    b. second, acquire resources that diversify ~~that~~ our energy supply including both new technologies for the more efficient use of conventional fuels (e.g. microturbines, fuel cells, etc.) and *environmentally responsible* renewable resources (e.g., wind, geothermal, hydro, biomass, and solar technologies) where a modest initial investment can help develop cost-effective resources.
    c. third, acquire conventional resources such as high efficiency natural gas combustion turbines and combined heat and power systems.
2. *Diversify its energy portfolio by* ~~E~~ncourag*ing*~~e~~ the development of new *environmentally responsible* resources *and* ~~by~~ moderating market and capital risk through clear up front regulations and standards.
3. Encourage comprehensive resource planning by all load-serving entities.

II Markets and Economy: Washington can enhance its cost-based electricity system by:

1. Creating opportunities for market forces to produce competition and lower prices through policies that *encourage development of environmentally responsible renewable resources and* provide clear, enforceable rules for all market participants.
2. Keeping the "obligation to serve" for utilities as the foundation for a well functioning wholesale electricity market~~s~~.
3. Promoting and encouraging industries that will make Washington State a leader in [clean] energy technologies.

III. Methods: In developing energy policy, Washington policy makers should:

1. Use data and analysis based on sound scientific and economic principles to inform energy policy.
2. Respond creatively and prospectively to technological, political, social, and environmental changes affecting the use and supply of energy.
3. Evaluate all electricity policies by how well they *protect the environment and* improve the safety, security and reliability of the system.

IV. Political and moral values underlying electricity policy: Washington should

1. Foster mutually beneficial relationships with nearby states and provinces to help accomplish common energy goals.
2. Maintain programs that ensure that all citizens, including those on limited incomes, have access to affordable electricity and natural gas.

3. Lead by example with energy efficiency in state and local government operations *and the purchase of renewable energy by state and local agencies*.
4. Provide opportunity for participation by the state's citizens in the Strategy and provide information and education to enhance understanding.
5. *Develop a climate change action plan to inventory emissions and identify targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.*